

The monthly bulletin of the
Bar Hill Residents Association,
distributed to all residents

New Residents

We welcome this month:

Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore, temporarily at 4 Otter Gardens, later
moving to 28 Partridge Drive.

Infant Welfare Clinic

Please note a change of time: beginning on October 7th, the Clinic will now be open from 4 to 5 p.m. It will continue to be held on the first Thursday of each month, in the School, with the Doctor and Health Visitor in attendance.. Mothers are asked to come as soon after 4 as possible, so that the Clinic can end promptly.

Libraries

Mobile Library. The Mobile Library calls in Bar Hill on alternate Tuesdays.
Starting on Tuesday, 19th October, Otter Close 9.20 - 9.45 a.m.

Oatlands Avenue 9.45 - 10.0 a.m.
Tuesday, 12th October Almond Grove 3.35 - 4.00 p.m.)
Gladeside 4.05 - 4.30 p.m.) as before

Bar Hill Library A reminder that this Library is open in the School on Monday
evenings, from 6.30 to 7.30. A consignment of about 150 new books has recently
been received.

Church Centre: Jumble

Jumble will be collected on the evenings of Tuesday, 5th and Thursday, 7th of
October.

Electoral Roll

We have been asked to remind you that, to ensure your inclusion in the Electoral
Roll, you should complete and return as requested the form which has recently been
delivered to you.

Badminton Club

The Bar Hill Badminton Club is sponsoring a Junior Night each Thursday evening in
the School and welcomes all young players.

Times and ages: 6.30 - 7.30: 11 to 12 years inclusive
7.30 - 8.30: 13 to 14 years inclusive.

The entry fee has been fixed at 25p for two terms, plus 5p per night for the use
of rackets and shuttlecocks. The children will be expected to wear plimsolls in
the School hall. Coaching will be given by adult members of the Club. Anyone
interested is asked to contact Mr. T. J. Whitford, 24 Otter Close (Crafts Hill
397), any evening; or Mr. P. Small, Forbuys Newsagents.

Travel to Royston

Is there anyone who works at Royston and would be interested in sharing transport
from time to time? Telephone Crafts Hill 216.

Fencing

We meet on Monday evenings at Swavesey Village College, at 7.30 p.m. in the Gym.
Anyone interested please contact: Mr. and Mrs. B. Powell, 2 Oatlands Avenue
(Crafts Hill 208); or Mrs. P. Fromant, 15 Almond Grove.

Caravans

The Parish Council asked the Developers if they would provide a parking area for
caravans within the Village. This they are prepared to do, if enough owners
requiring this facility are prepared to pay a rent for the same. Will anyone
requiring such a parking space within the Village contact me at 2 Acorn Avenue
(Crafts Hill 329).

A. Parrott

Playgroup

The Playgroup are happy to report that we now have a new home in our hut, loaned to us by Bar Hill Developments. The base was put down and the walls erected by the developers, and then an army of parents moved in to roof, line and decorate it; it now lacks only electricity, water and drainage, to be put in soon. We would like to say to everybody who worked so hard, and gave paint, etc., especially to those without playgroup children. Thank you all very much.

"New Wine in a New Bottle"

- the subject for Tuesday, 19th October in Bar Hill Primary School at 8 p.m. Philip Toogood and Deryck Gent (Warden and Adult Tutor of our Village College) invite you to an evening when they will explain all about the Village College as a Community Centre, including the showing of the short colour film "About Swavesey Village College". All are invited, and it is hoped that a discussion will take place also, about how the Village College can be used in the community development of Bar Hill.

The Gilbert and Sullivan Society

The Cambridge Branch (affiliated to the London Society) was formed in 1957, its purpose being to establish a meeting-ground for all who enjoy the works of Gilbert and Sullivan, to encourage appreciation of the operas, and to provide entertainment for the members.

Meetings are very informal and a variety of entertainment is given - concert performances of the operas by visiting groups, selections sung by our own members and guests, do-it-yourself versions, occasional recorded programmes, etc.

We are not a producing group staging public performances of the operas. We have a nucleus of experienced singers, but the majority of our members are in fact non-singers. New members are always welcome, and we emphasize that it is not necessary to be a singer to join.

Meetings are held in the Conference Room at Owen Webb House, Gresham Road, once monthly from September to May. The annual subscription is £1.25 (50p for full-time students), and this includes three issues of the Gilbert and Sullivan Journal published by the London Society.

President: A. Haylock, Esq. Chairman: Mrs. Donald Adams, 52 Grantchester Meadows, C. Hon. Sec.: Miss D. Speller, 9 Collier Road, C. Treasurer Mrs. M. Huggins, 21 Grantchester St., C. Free parking facilities at Owen Webb House.

Press Visit

On Thursday, 23rd September a party of national and local journalists were shown round the Village, and entertained by the Developers, as part of the sales promotion of Bar Hill. The widespread tidying-up of the Village, which preceded this visit, and the speed and efficiency demonstrated by the Developers in preparing the new show area, have been the subject of general notice and approval in the Village.

Mr. V. C. Matthews, Chairman of Bar Hill Developments Ltd. and Managing Director of Trafalgar House Investments Ltd. was present and took part in a ceremonial "digging of the foundations" on the site of Bar Hill Shared Church Centre.

This was followed by a presentation of prizes donated by the Developers for the "Best Garden" Competition organised by Bar Hill Horticultural Society.

The journalists were carried around the Village in a coach and also viewed it, indistinctly, from a cornfield on the site of the proposed golf course. (A commentary on the Village, and the Developers' view on its future were provided by Mr. K. Nunn of Nunn's of Ipswich) The journalists inspected more closely the new show houses in "Fox Hollow" and the complete new Village model on view in the Information Centre.

The following extracts from the official press release by Trafalgar House for this visit are of particular interest to the Village as definite statements of the Developers' intent:

"Golf Course and Motel/Club. Plans have been approved for the developing of an 18-hole championship golf course, the club house of which will be incorporated into a motel/club. The motel is near the present Information Centre, and site clearance, levelling and foundation work has already been carried through. The motel will have 64 bedrooms, bars, tennis courts, swimming pool and other facilities which will be available to the residents of Bar Hill in addition to motel guests. The motel will be operated by Trafalgar House Group's Hotels Division." (Contd. on side 3)

(Contd. from side 2)

"Health. The County Council's budget for 1971/72 includes the provision of a clinic for Far Hill which will contain two general practitioners suites."

Parish Council

Report on Meeting held on 21st September

A letter received from Mr. K. Nunn contained answers to points raised by the Parish Council in an earlier letter. The Developers have agreed to empty the litter bins in the play areas, to erect a Car Park sign, to sweep the roads more regularly and to paint white the edging of the island at the exit road-4604 junction (this has already been done), but they could not provide extra parking space on Phase 2. Improvements and repairs to the paths, lighting and roads in Phase 2 would be done, but only as the general development progressed. Mr. Nunn has agreed to look into providing a site on which garden rubbish may be dumped, the provision of a Caravan Park and the possible erection of a barrier across the Phase 2 path leading directly to the lagoons in the Park.

Mr. Dale is continuing his attempts to persuade the Bus Company to bring their buses into the Village Centre and the Council are conducting a survey of numbers of passengers using the 8.15 a.m. service in an attempt to bring one of these buses into the Village and so reduce the chance of an accident to a resident crossing the road.

Requests from Developers. The Parish Council have been requested to circularise residents about the following matters: that cars are being parked on landscaped areas within the Village, and that oil, etc. is being washed down the surface water drains. This latter is causing pollution of the lagoons in the Park and could become a health hazard. Would residents please refrain from these activities in the future. (The remainder of this report was inadvertently omitted, and can be found on side 4. - Editor)

Gardening Club

Best Garden Competition. The Best Garden Competition was judged by Mr. Stringer, Head Gardener of Girton College, and the first prize in each class was awarded to the winners by Mr. V. Matthews, Chairman of the Developers, on Thursday, 23rd September. The winners were as follows:

Class I - established gardens. 1st - Mr. and Mrs. Tropins, 46 Acorn Avenue; 2nd - Mr. and Mrs. Fremant, 15 Almond Grove; 3rd - Mr. and Mrs. Pitman, 1 Otter Close. Highly commended - 17 Acorn Avenue, 7 Almond Grove.

Class II - New gardens started approximately 18 months ago.

1st - Mr. and Mrs. Webster, 41 Acorn Avenue; 2nd - Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson, 33 Oatlands Avenue; 3rd - Mr. and Mrs. Levitt - 27 Oatlands Avenue. Highly commended - 28 Acorn Avenue.

Class III - Feature or Specimen. 1st - Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins, 6 Almond Grove; 2nd - Mr. and Mrs. Neill, 1 Oatlands Avenue; 3rd - Mr. and Mrs. Palmann, 17 Acorn Ave.

Meeting on 23rd September

There was a good attendance at the meeting where the speaker was Mr. Stringer, judge of the Garden Competition. Our first mini-show attracted several entries and was successful. The winners, Mr. Page, Mrs. Tabbitt and Mr. and Mrs. Stearn, were given 25p vouchers.

Outing to Pantomime

We have booked 60 seats and transport to the pantomime at the Arts Theatre in Cambridge for the 2.30 p.m. performance on Saturday, 1st January. We are offering tickets, at 75p each, to members only in the first instance on a "first come, first served" basis. All enquiries should be made to Mr. S. Frogley, 3 Oatlands Avenue.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held in the School at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, 19th October. The Vice-President of the National Association of Allotments and Gardens will be coming with another speaker to talk about Allotments. We welcome everyone who is interested. We shall be holding another mini flower show at this meeting, with 3 classes: (1) Chrysanthemum (single bloom) (2) Chrysanthemum (spray) (3) Any other flower(s). A minimum of 3 blooms per section to be entered; a charge of 3p per entry will be made.

Gardening Shop. We will soon be taking bulk delivery of bush and hybrid tea roses and pre-packed shrubs. All enquiries should be made to the garden shop.

Gardening Hints for October: a good month for the application of slow-acting fertilisers such as bone-meal (about 4 oz. per sq. yd.) on borders and bulb beds. Do NOT use a lime-based fertilizer on our alkaline soil. Lay new lawns from turf (if using seed, get it now - it should have been done in September. (contd. overleaf)

4.

Gardening hints, contd. Aerate lawns (aerator for hire from shop) clear dead grass and moss with spring-toothed rake. Start to autumn feed, dress with peat and sand to help drainage (1lb. peat, 2lbs. sharp sand per sq. yd., work in well); don't leave lawn covered. Prepare rose-beds and fruit sites. Dig as deeply as possible; dress with peat and 2 oz. growmore sq. yd. Take hard wood cuttings and treat with root-forming hormone. Lift begonias and dahlias as soon as they are blackened by frost.

Parish Council, contd. from side 3. The conveyance of the land for the Village Green is expected to take place shortly. With this in mind the Parish Council have decided to engage a solicitor to act on their behalf in this transfer.

Some 35 young people attended the meeting on 7th September. Having made their ideas and grievances known, they then elected a committee of nine to represent themselves. At a later meeting on Sept. 21st Andrew Smith was elected Chairman and Chris Palmann Secretary; they were told that the area in front of CCL could be used as a football pitch and that the Developers would provide the goal posts. A. Parrott (Clerk)

Letter to the Editor from E. Taylor (slightly abridged for reasons of space - apologies)

Dear Sir: Earlier this year I wrote to you giving my very gloomy view of the state of affairs in the Village; having now celebrated the Autumnal Equinox it seems time to take another look.

Throughout the year the sides of the perimeter road have been kept in order, even if not grassed. The fields on the industrial estate have been converted from jungles to (at least from a distance) cricket pitches. Grass cutting has been regularly done in the park (an innovation) and in other communal areas, whilst various former patches of mud have been converted into quite acceptable grassed areas, particularly on Heatherset. Also, in the park seemingly millions of trees have been planted and I gather that a temporary 'kicking about' area has been allocated near CCL whilst we await the Green. Despite misgivings the new sales office is by no means unattractive, inside and out, and conveys an attempt to welcome people into the Village and sell them houses (people who used the old sales office will appreciate what I mean). As for the old sales office, most people will already know about the considerable help that the Developers have given the playgroup, both in its donation and also erection and outfitting. I gather the Developers have also donated the church site.

The horticultural society also have reason to be grateful. I would personally like it to be put on record that we initially asked if the Developers would consider donating £10 for this year only for the garden competitions. Instead they have of their own volition not only presented a very beautiful cup but have also donated an annual £15. Before continuing to slightly more shady topics I would like to say that most people will agree that we should express our unreserved appreciation to the Developers.

It would seem that technical reasons as well as haphazard digging have rendered the TV aerial inoperable and whilst on Phase 2 the outside siting of the new aerials is somewhat disturbing most people are coming to welcome the conversion and find that uniformity in this case is preferable to the more conventional hotchpotch of H-X-I's, etc. which tend to spread in depressing abandon about roofs. Nevertheless it is unfortunate that the concept of a communal aerial system has been abandoned.

The virtual infinity of signs erected in the Village seem to have generated the spectrum of opinions from "I suppose we have to put up with them" to "τΔν* hideous". Although the new path serving Heatherset is not only attractive but seems to portend improvements to other paths, the main spine path to Phase 2 is dangerous enough to demand immediate albeit temporary attention. A brush wouldn't go amiss there either. Since last January only 12 lights have come into operation (and these had been erected for some considerable time beforehand). In spite of repeated promises of immediate attention, still nothing has been done and one suspects that the suicidal walks along some paths on winter nights will continue indefinitely. The unsightly state of the roads cannot be said to encourage us to keep our Village litter-free (and it isn't!!)

Having done my thing vis a vis the Developers I shall now look at us, the residents. Emptying oil down grids is bad enough; when the grids feed into the pools which kids paddle in, it must be deplored (guilty). Parking on Phase 2 is a problem, it is certainly not assisted by leaving caravans and trailers, etc., out on a semi-permanent basis. Perhaps we could endeavour, knowing of the problem, and in lieu of a solution, to occasionally use our garages (guilty). Parking on grass for which we almost had to beg doesn't seem to be an answer either and hardly sets an example to our children. Things are changing rapidly in Bar Hill, physically and sociologically. We cannot continue to blame everything on the Developers or regard them as eternal providers. Growing-up seems to describe best the current situation, and we should face its responsibilities more. The experience of the playgroup, church and horticultural society indicates that when we are prepared to do things for ourselves, then help will be more forthcoming than when we wait for it. The Parish Council and Residents Association can only function properly when people communicate with them, and don't let their ideas lie dormant and fester or else become distorted along the grapevine.

To sum up, I am optimistic: the Developers seem unlikely to let their recent efforts be wasted; and we should not sit waiting for things to fall into our lap. Yours, etc.